



COOK COUNTY HEALTH

**JOHN JAY SHANNON, MD
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
COOK COUNTY HEALTH
REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
APRIL 26, 2019**

Employee Recognition

Dr. Karen Cosby, ultrasound director for the department of emergency medicine, is retiring after 28 years with Cook County Health. After joining CCH, she quickly became a favorite attending physician among emergency medicine residents and was instrumental in setting up the Cook County-Rush Emergency Ultrasound Program, for which she serves as fellowship director. For the past 23 years, Dr. Cosby has been in charge of the Department of Emergency Medicine Morbidity and Mortality conferences. She is a recognized national expert in emergency ultrasound and diagnostic errors, lecturing around the world and publishing countless studies and papers throughout her career. Her commitment, drive and determination will be missed at CCH.

The CCH Emergency Medicine Division of Toxicology recently presented seven case studies at American College of Medical Toxicology Annual Scientific Meeting in San Francisco. With us today are **Drs. Neeraj Chhabra, Arkady Rasin, Michael Wahl and Caleb Scarth** as well as **Lum Rizvanolli and Joanne Routsolias**. Their hard work and dedication to research and best practices in their field continue to put CCH at the forefront of emergency care for Cook County and the entire country.

Thank you to CCH team members **Katina Haymer, Jacqueline Polk, Juanita Shumaker, Tondra Starks, Jewell Thompson, Marilyn Wayne and Karen Williams-Bouie** – who recently volunteered at the Black Women's Expo at McCormick Place. The team conducted blood pressure screenings and handed out information about CCH. Additionally, CCH physicians, Drs. Sharon Irons, Arnold Turner, Brian Humphrey and Courtney Hollowell participated in a panel discussion on men's health while CCH nurse and stroke program coordinator **Adaku Madubuko** provided a session on stroke prevention.

Activities and Announcements

- The Cook County Health Pharmacy Department launched a **Patient Prescription Communication Service (PPCS)** on Tuesday, April 23, 2019. The PPCS automatically notifies patients, via a telephone call, that their prescriptions are ready for pick up or has been shipped. PCS also notifies patients if there is a problem with their prescription.

IMPACT 2020 Objective 1.4

- Provident Hospital and Sengstacke Health Center will host the annual its **23rd Annual 4 Men Only Health and Wellness Fair** Saturday, April 27, 2019. The health and wellness fair provides health screening including eye, blood pressure, HIV and Hep C tests to attendees. The event takes place at Provident Hospital located at 500 E. 52st Street in Chicago.

IMPACT Objective 6.3

- **Cook County Health C.A.R.E** (Connecting Adolescents to Resources and Education/Employment) is a workforce initiative designed to introduce and develop a diverse workforce pipeline with key community partners to provide opportunities for Chicago youths ages 14-25 for access into entry-level to middle skilled healthcare careers. Cook County Health C.A.R.E. is a new program funded through a grant from the Michael Reese Health Trust.

On Tuesday April 23rd C.A.R.E had its first speaking engagement with Chicago Public Schools (CPS). Denise Davis the Outpatient Pharmacy Supervisor at Stroger Pharmacy engaged, inspired and motivated 22 CPS students at Gage Park High School.

IMPACT 2020 Focus Area 6

- CCH will host its second **Research & Innovation Summit** titled **Housing is Health** on May 22, 2019. The afternoon will include several presentations from CCH leaders, a health provider panel, a policy panel as well as remarks from Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and a CCH patient who has benefitted from our programs. The invitation is attached.

IMPACT Objective 6.3

- **Chicago Healthcare System Coalition for Preparedness & Response (CHSCPR) Annual Full-Scale Exercise** will take place on May 2, 2019. The scope of this exercise will focus on CCH's role in response to major incident. This year's scenario encompasses impacts and considerations associated with a multi-hospital evacuation triggered by an imminent threat. All CCH facilities will participate in the drill. The Hospital Incident Command System will be activated for the duration of the drill.
- Leadership has shared several of the **strategic planning** presentations at various internal CCH meetings and received good feedback. The **employee and community town hall meetings** have been scheduled as follows:

April 30, 2019: Stroger Hospital
 4pm - Employee Town Hall
 6pm - Community Town Hall

May 2, 2019: Provident Hospital
 4pm - Employee Town Hall
 6pm - Community Town Hall

May 7, 2019: Cicero Community Center
 6pm - Community Town Hall

May 9, 2019: Oak Forest Health Center
 4pm – Employee Town Hall
 6pm – Community Town Hall

- **Food As Medicine Update**

Through April 9, CCH's **Fresh Truck** partnership with the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD) has resulted in 177 visits to 13 CCH health centers – Austin, Arlington Heights, Cicero, the CORE Center, Cottage Grove, Englewood, Logan Square, Near South, Oak Forest, Prieto, Robbins, Woodlawn, and Provident/Sengstacke. Collectively, the Fresh Truck distributions have resulted in the provision of fresh fruits and vegetables to 23,018 individuals, representing 76,025 household members, totaling more than 477,000 pounds of fresh produce. Most of the individuals benefiting from the Fresh Truck screened positive for food insecurity at a CCH health center visit.

The Fresh Food Truck visits for the month of May include the following ACHN Health Centers.

May 2 – **Prieto Health Center** – 2424 S. Pulaski Road, Chicago, IL 60623
 May 14 – **Provident Hospital/Sengstacke Health Center** – 500 W. 51st Street, Chicago, IL 60615
 May 21 – **Woodlawn Health Center** - 6337 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, IL 60634
 May 17 – **CORE Center** - 2020 W. Harrison Street, Chicago, IL 60612
 May 28 – **Logan Square Health Center** - 2840 W. Fullerton Avenue, Chicago, IL 60647
 May 23 – **Oak Forest Health Center** - 15900 S. Cicero Ave. Oak Forest, IL 60452

The Fresh Market schedule is listed below, note updated dates and times:

- Oak Forest Health Center on Wednesdays, 9am-2pm
- Robbins Health Center on Thursdays, 11am-3pm
- Cottage Grove Health Center on Fridays, 9am-2pm

Fresh produce is supplied by Black Oaks Center, a nonprofit that seeks to create a just, holistic, and local food system through education, entrepreneurship, and access to healthy, affordable foods. CCH partners with Experimental Station's Link Up Illinois Link Match program to offer SNAP users with a match on all purchases at CCHHS Fresh Markets, up to \$20/market/week.

IMPACT 2020 Objectives 1.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.4

Legislative Update

State

- More than 6,600 bills and resolutions were filed this session in the House and Senate. April 12 was the deadline to pass bills out of the originating chamber in order to continue being considered during the spring session. The House and Senate return to Springfield April 30 when they will resume a nearly daily session schedule in an effort to conclude their business and pass a state budget by the May 31 deadline.
- On March 28, the [House Appropriations – Capital Committee](#) heard from hospital stakeholders during a subject matter-only hearing. CCH's Deputy CEO Debra Carey presented testimony that outlined CCH's request for \$50M in state capital funding to support the modernization of five CCH health centers. The last time Illinois passed a comprehensive capital program that includes transportation and non-transportation funding was in 2009.
- The Senate Executive Committee approved [SJRCA1, SA1](#) by a party line vote of 12-5-0 with 2 members not voting; the bill proposes to amend the state constitution to allow for a graduated-income tax rate, instead of the current flat tax rate. Changing the Illinois constitution requires 3/5ths approval by both chambers of the Illinois General Assembly. The issue would then be placed on the 2020 statewide ballot and require approval by 60% of statewide voters. The earliest a state graduated income tax could be implemented would be 2021.
- Governor Pritzker signed [HB345](#) (Tobacco 21) into law, which raises the purchase age for tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and vaping materials, to 21 years (from 18 years), making Illinois the first state in the Midwest, and the 8th state nationwide to enact this change. The bill was led by Representative Camille Lilly (D-Oak Park) in the House and Senator Julie Morrison (D-Deerfield) in the Senate. PA 101-0002 takes effect July 1, 2019.
- Governor Pritzker announced that Illinois would draft administrative rules to clarify Medicaid coverage of gender affirming surgery for individuals 21 years and older with gender dysphoria. This is estimated to impact 1,400 individuals of the 3.1M total Medicaid participants.

Federal

- The House left Washington for a two-week Spring recess on Wednesday, April 10 and the Senate followed suit the next day. While House Democrats touted their legislative accomplishments over the first one hundred days since regaining the majority, including legislation to bolster the ACA, it is unlikely that many of their priority bills will receive a Senate vote, much less make it to the President's desk. Nevertheless, work continues on measures to bring down prescription drug prices and, of course, must-pass annual spending bills.

- **Budget and Appropriations:** Rather than produce an FY 2020 budget resolution, the House Budget Committee decided to propose a measure to lift the statutory discretionary budget caps imposed by the Budget Control Act of 2011. The legislation would increase both the domestic and defense discretionary spending caps for the next two fiscal years. This would give the Appropriations Committee the top line numbers it would need to begin to craft the twelve annual appropriations bills. By Wednesday House leaders pulled the bill because members of the Progressive Caucus were prepared to join Republicans in voting against the bill because they objected to the levels of defense spending. However, in a procedural move the House did approve a rule that gives the appropriators the ability to begin work as though the measure had passed. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) has indicated that he wants to reach a deal, even though the President has made statements suggesting that the White House would be content to let the automatic sequestration cuts kick in.
- **Affordable Care Act:** In a surprise move, on March 25, the U.S. Department of Justice changed course and told the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals that the government agreed with the District Court in Texas, et al. v. United States and that the entire ACA should be ruled unconstitutional. Previously the DOJ had argued that only the consumer protections like guaranteed issue should be invalidated after Congress zeroed out the individual mandate penalty for not carrying health insurance. After a week of controversy, which included the President calling for another ACA “repeal and replace” effort in Congress, the President said that he would wait until after the 2020 elections. Nevertheless, the Administration’s position before the Appeals Court has not changed. Oral arguments are scheduled for the week of July 8.

On March 28, another federal judge struck down the U.S. Department of Labor rules expanding association health plans under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) as an end-run around the ACA.

- **Medicaid:** Conversations about reforming the Medicaid disproportionate share hospital (DSH) program continue among Senate Republicans. On April 4, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) published an op-ed in *Stat* arguing that Congress should not simply “kick the can down the road” by delaying scheduled statutory cuts to the Medicaid DSH program. He called for a new schedule to allow hospitals to prepare for cuts, for updating the Medicaid DSH formula to reflect current needs, and for full transparency and disclosure of all public funds that hospitals receive. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) dismissed the idea as a non-starter in the House, suggesting it would reward states that refused to implement the ACA Medicaid expansion. The County is continuing to work to elevate the profile of the issue with our delegation, so that a delay can be included in an appropriate legislative vehicle before the cuts go into effect.

As is often the case in Medicaid, much of the action is in the states. On April 1, Nebraska submitted plans to seek a waiver to impose work requirements and limit benefits for the expansion approved by voters in November. Similarly, on April 9, the governor of Idaho signed a bill which modifies the ACA expansion approved by voters. The new legislation directs the state to apply for an 1115 waiver to impose work requirements and allow those between 100 and 139 percent of the federal poverty level (the so-called Medicaid gap) to retain their subsidized ACA coverage. The next day, on April 10, the Administration appealed the federal district court’s ruling against the Arkansas and Kentucky Medicaid work requirements. The lower court had found that the states had not demonstrated that the work rules furthered the Medicaid program’s goal of medical assistance.

Of note for Medicaid policy, at least five senior officials at the CMS Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services, the agency that oversees the Medicaid program, have resigned since the beginning of the year.

Protection of Medicaid remains a key priority for CCH at both the State and Federal level.

Community Outreach

May 1 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at **Malcolm X College Service Days**, hosted by the **Wellness Center of Malcolm X College** at the school located at 1900 W. Jackson Boulevard in Chicago. This event for the students and community will provide services such as health insurance enrollment, counseling, mental health support services and nutrition education, to name a few. The HIV testing team from the **Austin Health Center CDC** will do HIV tests at this event.

May 1 CountyCare promotion at the **McNeal Hospital's Stroke Awareness Fair**, which is taking place in the hospital's lobby located at 3249 S. Oak Park Avenue in Berwyn.

May 3 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Cinco de Mayo Fest** which is hosted by the **Senior Service Coalition of Southeast Chicago** and will take place at the South Chicago Senior Satellite Site located at 9233 S. Burley Avenue in Chicago. The goal of the fair is to celebrate Older Americans Month and Cinco de Mayo by providing information and connecting seniors, their families and caregivers to resources.

May 4 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **McKinney Vento Resource Fair**, which is hosted by **South Cook ISC (Intermediate Service Center)** and will take place at the R.I.S.E. School campus located at 405 Ashland Avenue in Chicago Heights. South Cook ISC sponsors this event for homeless students and their families who live within their service boundaries.

May 4 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Southside Early Learning Network's Community Resource Fair**, which will take place at the Kelly Branch Library Auditorium located at 6151 S. Normal Boulevard in Chicago. The Southside Early Learning Network's iGrow Program invites everyone to learn about home visiting programs for expecting mothers and children birth 0 -3, child care referrals and child care in Cook County, resources in the community and provides for one-on-one coaching for parents and caregivers of children 0-8 years old and much more.

May 4 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Summit Public Library Annual Health Fair**, which takes place at the library located at 6233 S. Archer Road in Summit.

May 5 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Our Lady Gate of Heaven Health Fair**, which is hosted by the **Sinai Health Ministries** at the church located at 2338 E. 99th Street in Chicago.

May 8 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Well Women Program**, which is hosted by **President Larry Dominick and the Elected Officials of the Town of Cicero**, at the Cicero Community Center located at 2250 S. 49th Avenue in Cicero. Various health screenings and beauty services will be offered throughout the day, completely free of charge.

May 9 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at **Buenos Dias Mujer**, which is hosted by the **Sinai Health Ministries** at the Immaculate Conception Church located at 2944 E. 88th Street in Chicago. The goal of Buenos Dias Mujer is to bring awareness to women's health.

May 7 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Orland Township Senior Health Fair** which will take place at the Orland Township Offices located at 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue in Orland Park. The event will provide health screenings and information on local health resources.

May 11 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at **14th Annual Statewide Summit for Bilingual Parents** which is hosted by **Illinois State Board of Education** at the Hilton in Oakbrook. The Annual Statewide Summit for Bilingual Parents provides a rich mix of information about issues of critical importance to parents from linguistically and culturally diverse backgrounds. Top speakers are joined by experts and panels on such topics

as pathways to academic success, enhanced parental participation in schools, immigration issues, bilingual education programs, effective parenting practices, health care options and more. Health Insurance options are a major component of the resources available to parents.

May 11 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Rolling Meadows Police Department's Family Services Day 2019**, which will take place at Young Innovations Headquarters located at 2260 Algonquin Parkway in Rolling Meadows. The event will provide health screenings and information on local health resources and will be a place to promote the health services of the new Arlington Heights Health Center.

May 11 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Maywood Youth Summer Activities Resource Fair**, which will take place at the Lightford Recreation Center located at 809 Madison Street in Maywood.

May 11 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Taking Care of You and Your Family Health and Wellness Fair**, which is sponsored by **Calumet City Alderman Leni Woszczynski** and takes place at the Calumet City Public Library located at 600 Manistee Street in Calumet City. The focus of this year's event is event to promote health in the community and inform residents about resources.

May 15 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at **Community Assistance Programs' Senior Resource Fair**, which takes place at their main building located at 11717 South Halsted Street in Chicago Heights. This health fair is for their clients and community members who are age 55 and over to help to prevent illness by providing health screenings and information on local health resources.

May 16 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at **Friend Family Health Center's Community Baby Shower** at their Cottage Grove facility located at 800 E. 55th Street in Chicago.

May 18 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at **A Safe Haven's 5th Annual Veterans Stand Down** at the A Safe Haven Warehouse located at 2501 W. Taylor Street in Chicago. Over 200 Stand Downs take place across the country each year. A Stand Down is when hundreds of homeless and at-risk veterans are provided access to a wide range of services by representatives from academic, workforce development, social services and the health care industry.

May 24 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **City of Chicago's 6th Annual Faith and Action Kick-Off** which is hosted by the **Chicago Police Department - 022nd District CAPS** will take place at the Trinity United Church of Christ located at 400 W. 95th Street in Chicago.

May 24 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **10th District Peace Parade, Health and Resource Fair** which is hosted by the Sinai Health Institute and the Chicago Police Department and which will take place at the Garfield Park Fieldhouse located at 100 North Central Park Avenue in Chicago.

May 29 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **National Senior Health & Fitness Day**, which is hosted by the **Homewood Flossmoor Racquet & Fitness Club** at the club located at 2920 W. 183rd Street in Homewood. The 25th Annual Wellness Event will have a variety of health related presentations that will focus on mental health and exercise, cancer support and how to reduce the risk of Alzheimer's.

May 26 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Greater Auburn Gresham Health Fair**, which is hosted by the **GAGDC** at 7901 S. Racine Avenue in Chicago. Health Fair "On the Block" is an annual event that takes place in the Auburn Gresham community and promotes peace, health, and wellness to the community. Health screenings, resources, fitness activities, and variety of different activities centered on health and wellness will be available for attendees.



SYSTEM BRIEFS

April 1 - 7 marks National Public Health Week, an observance that recognizes the important role public health plays in the communities we serve. The following information is provided to educate CCH staff about important public health issues. For more information on national activities, visit the American Public Health Association's [website](#). For more information about the Cook County Department of Public Health, click [here](#).

Healthy Communities	The more places that support us in living a healthier life, the better. That's where the Healthy HotSpot initiative comes in. Led by Cook County Department of Public Health in collaboration with many partners, Healthy HotSpot aims to multiply the number of places that make healthy living easier where we live, work, learn, play, worship and receive healthcare. Visit www.healthyhotspot.org to learn more.
Health Equity	All Americans deserve an equal opportunity to make the choices that lead to good health. But to ensure that all Americans have that opportunity, advances are needed not only in health care, but also in education, childcare, housing, business, law, media, community planning, transportation, and agriculture. Making these advances involves working together to eliminate unfair, preventable, and unjust gaps in health and well-being. Health equity was identified as a priority health issue for suburban Cook County during CCDPH's WePlan2020 community health assessment process. Download the report at https://goo.gl/7geb2B .
Behavioral Health	Behavioral health has also been identified as a priority health issue for suburban Cook County. Behavioral health includes mental illness and substance misuse. According to a 2016 joint CCDPH and Chicago Department of Health report, there were 1,081 opioid-related overdose deaths in Cook County in 2016: 741 in Chicago and 340 in the suburbs. SCC is also experiencing a new surge of opioid-related deaths from Fentanyl and other synthetic opioids. Read the report at https://goo.gl/t2bJQB .
Tech & Public Health	CCDPH uses technology to disseminate important health information to the public and partners. Follow us on Twitter www.twitter.com/cookcohealth and like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/ccdph . Check the CCDPH website at www.cookcountypublichealth.org regularly for information about the latest health topics, including disease outbreaks and public health emergencies.
Climate Change	Climate change is already linked to more frequent and extreme natural disasters. It is also expected to affect food security, water and air quality; and exacerbate the risks of vector-borne diseases, such as West Nile Virus and Lyme disease. Get info: Mosquito-bite prevention www.fightthebitecookcounty.com ; ticks www.avoidtickscookcounty.com ; and emergency preparedness at www.preparedcookcounty.com .



SYSTEM NEWS

April 25, 2019

Letter From the CEO

Dear Cook County Health Friends,

Across the country, providers are moving away from sick care and focusing on health care through preventive treatment and care. At Cook County Health, we are no different.

As one of the largest public health care systems in the U.S., CCH records more than one million outpatient visits and has more than 23,000 inpatient admissions yearly. To meet the growing demands placed on the system, we must continue to evolve to better care for our patients' needs.

As part of that evolution, we are developing our next strategic plan with appropriate emphasis on health and wellness, while remaining true to our historic mission to care for all. When we adopted our current strategic plan, [IMPACT 2020](#), it came after input from a variety of stakeholders including employees, patients and the communities we proudly serve. It also defined opportunities for us to establish a platform for continued success in delivering on our mission and commitment to all of Cook County. We continue to modernize our facilities and expand our services. In addition to our new Professional Building on the central campus and our new Arlington Heights Health Center, we look forward to additional suburban expansion later this year in North Riverside and Blue Island – all projects contemplated in our previous strategic plan.

As we develop our 2020-2022 strategic plan, we look forward to engaging with you about the future of CCH. To that end, please consider joining us at an upcoming town hall meeting to learn about CCH's strategic plan and provide input.

To RSVP, email townhall@cookcountyhhs.org. Your contributions will help CCH develop a strategy that enables us to care for our patients and the communities we serve well into the future. I thank you for your continued support.



Dr. Jay Shannon, CEO, CCH

JJ Brown



COOK COUNTY HEALTH

Strategic Planning Town Hall Meeting

Participate in the CCH
Strategic Planning Process
YOU ARE INVITED

Cook County Health is hosting a Town Hall Meeting to gather input from the community on its 2020-2022 Strategic Plan.



COOK COUNTY
HEALTH

cookcountyhhs.org

Tuesday, April 30
6:00pm-7:30pm

Stroger Hospital - Central Campus
Cook County Health Professional Building
1030 West Polk Street
Board Room, 5th Floor
Chicago, IL 60622

Thursday, May 2
6:00pm-7:30pm

Provident Hospital
1000 East 51st Street
Cafeteria, 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60615

Tuesday, May 7
4:30pm-6:00pm

Cicero Community Center
2030 South 49th Avenue
Room CC107
Cicero, IL 60614

Thursday, May 9
6:00pm-7:30pm

Oak Forest Health Center
1500 S. Sandi Cicero Road
Auditorium, Main Building
Oak Forest, IL 60452

Cook County Health Cuts Ribbon on Outpatient Center in Arlington Heights



Back row : Kevin Morrison, Cook County Board of Commissioners (15th District) and Dr. Jay Shannon, CEO, CCH

Front row : Toni Preckwinkle, Cook County Board President, Scott Britton, Cook County Board of Commissioners (14th District), Peter Silvestri, Cook County Board of Commissioners (9th District), Bridget Degnen, Cook County Board of Commissioners (12th District), Mayor Thomas Hayes, Arlington Heights, and Victor Medina, CCH

On April 12th, Cook County Health held a ribbon-cutting ceremony and public open house at its new Arlington Heights Health Center as part of its ongoing plans to expand care in suburban Cook County.

The CCH Arlington Heights Health Center officially opened on January 14th. Located at 3250 N. Arlington Heights Road, the 25,000 square foot facility includes 25 exam rooms, dental space and an on-site lab. The comprehensive patient care team, which provides a variety of primary and specialty care services, includes bilingual Spanish-speaking staff members. The center expects more than 30,000 visits annually.

The services that will be provided in the new center include:

- Chronic disease management
- Dental services
- Health education classes
- Immunizations
- Mammography
- Obstetrics
- Pediatrics
- Prenatal care
- Primary care for children and adults
- WIC nutrition services
- Behavioral health

This commitment to outpatient and specialty care, and community wellness will improve the health of CCH patients, reduce unnecessary health care costs and provide the greatest benefit to all of Cook County. For more information, or to make an appointment, call the Patient Support Center at (312) 864-0200.



Patricia Hernandez, CCH director of CareLink, gathers with Bertha Morín, director of community engagement and mobilization, and community leaders from *Mujeres Latinas en Acción*.

On March 27, Patricia Hernandez, CCH director of CareLink, presented to 15 community leaders from *Mujeres Latinas en Acción* about the benefits of CareLink and how to access the health system. CareLink is specifically designed to assist uninsured or underinsured patients. CareLink can help cover the costs of services at CCH, including clinic visits, lab tests, hospital stays, and urgent and emergency services.

Making sure uninsured or underinsured patients receive preventive care is important to lowering health care costs. Partnering with community organizations like *Mujeres Latinas en Acción* ensures access to care for all Cook County residents and is vital to keeping our communities healthy.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the CCH CareLink program.

Illinois Raises Legal Age for Buying Tobacco Products from 18 to 21



Left: Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker signs the bill raising the legal age to buy tobacco products to 21.

Right: Dr. Terry Mason, chief operating officer for the Cook County Department of Public Health with Illinois State Representative Camille Lilly

On April 7, Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker signed legislation to raise the legal age for buying tobacco products from 18 to 21, making Illinois the first state in the Midwest to adopt 'Tobacco 21' statewide.

House Bill 345 takes effect July 1. It covers both tobacco and vaping products, including cigarettes, chewing tobacco, e-cigarettes and vapes. Illinois will be the eighth state to implement the legislation when the bill takes effect.

According to the Cook County Department of Public Health, 95 percent of smokers start before the age of 21.

4 Men Only at Provident Hospital

Don't miss out on CCH's 4 Men Only Health & Wellness Fair this Saturday, April 27 from 11 am – 3 pm. There will be complimentary screenings and lunch.



Complimentary Screenings & Lunch

Eye Screening
Dental Screening
Foot Screening
Blood Pressure Screening
HIV Rapid Testing/Hep C

Lab Work for:
Cholesterol, Diabetes
Prostate Cancer (over 40)
(Must present photo ID for lab work)

Saturday, April 27, 2019
11:00am-3:00pm

Provident Hospital of Cook County
500 East 51st Street • Chicago, IL 60615

For more information call

312-572-2705



Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity,
Iota Delta
Lambda Chapter



Kappa Alpha Psi
Fraternity,
Chicago Heights
Alumni Chapter



Chicago Alumnae Chapter Del-
ta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



City Colleges
of Chicago
Malcolm X College
Medical Assistant Program,
Phlebotomy Program,
and School of Nursing



cookcountyhhs.org

2-19

CCH at Black Women's Expo

Dr. Sharon Irons led a discussion about men's health topics with CCH's Dr. Brian Humphrey, Dr. Courtney Hollowell and Dr. Arnold Turner. Attendees learned about the importance for men to stay healthy for the betterment of the familial unit.

Right: CCH Staff Jackie Polk, Karen Bouie-Williams, Tondra Starks, Katina Hamer and Marilyn Wayne volunteering at the Black Women's

Expo.

Below : CCH Physicians Dr. Sharon Irons, Dr. Arnold Turner, Dr. Brian Humphrey and Dr. Courtney Hollowell.



Dr. Irene Aluen-Metzner Named Cook County Health Doctor of the Year

On March 29, CCH recognized Dr. Irene Aluen-Metzner as the CCH 2019 Doctor of the Year.

Dr. Aluen-Metzner, who lives in Oak Park with her husband and daughter, is an internal medicine physician at Cook County Health's Logan Square health center and is director of the primary care residency program. Dr. Aluen-Metzner has been with CCH for 14 years, completing her residency in 2008.

To help ensure a high level of care for CCH patients, she is involved with a variety of task groups to improve processes for patients needing specialty care or testing.

She has also worked to improve the lives of her colleagues. Dr. Aluen-Metzner spearheaded the hospital's wellness committee, helping to make important gains for other physicians, while working to prevent physician burnout.

Dr. Irene Aluen-Metzner shows her Cook County Doctor of the Year Award.



**Check Out Cook County Health's
New Instagram Account!**



7
posts

129
followers

228
following

Message



Cook County Health

Hospital

Cook County Health cares for more than 300,000 people each year with dignity and respect, regardless of their ability to pay.

cookcountyhhs.org/

1969 W Ogden Ave, Chicago, Illinois

Call



The Cook County Health Foundation
Associate Board presents the

2ND ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT

*Proceeds benefiting the Cook County Health
Foundation Associate Board.*

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019
6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.
HOPSMITH
15 WEST DIVISION STREET

TICKETS: \$35 in advance
\$40 at the door

Includes trivia, two drink tickets
and light appetizers

<http://tinyurl.com/cchfabtrivia>

Physician Profile:

Dr. Juleigh Nowinski Konchak

Dr. Juleigh Nowinski Konchak is a preventive medicine and public health physician who serves as a physician leader for Cook County Health's medication-assisted treatment (MAT) initiative for the treatment of substance use disorders.

Dr. Nowinski Konchak works with a multi-disciplinary team within CCH and with external partners to implement access to high-quality, team-based, substance use care across CCH's community health centers, correctional health facility, emergency department and inpatient settings; as well as within primary care clinics at partnering federally qualified health centers (FQHCs). She is also core faculty member

For the Present & Mapping Resources Program at CCH

"CCH understands that helping a patient address their psychosocial needs, such as housing insecurity, past trauma or barriers to employment, are necessary to effectively help patients," Dr. Niedzialko Kinsella said. "We can't do that without community partners. It is incredibly rewarding to work in an environment that supports and encourages this coordinated and collaborative care."



Cook County Health in the News

Daily Herald

Suburban Chicago's Information Source



[County Health Clinic Grand Opening Friday in Arlington Heights](#)

[Inauguran una nueva clínica pública con personal bilingüe en Arlington Heights](#)

Chicago Tribune



[From the community: Oak Park Physician Named Cook County Health Doctor of the Year](#)

[Drug-resistant bug has local health officials scrambling](#)



[Here & Now, Cook County Health Story Corps](#)

Watch us on CAN TV

Every month, Cook County Health features a guest expert on CAN TV to offer viewers information on various health topics, such as heart disease and breast cancer, and discuss prevention and treatment strategies. Be sure to tune in to CAN TV on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 pm to catch CCH's monthly

Cook County Health in the Community: Spring Events

CCH's outreach team participates in a variety of community events throughout Cook County. Whether it is a health fair, festival, job fair or community picnic, CCH's outreach workers make sure that Cook County residents know

segment, and call in with your health questions at (312) 738-1060. To find archived episodes, visit YouTube and look for the [Community Health Hotline](#). The next show will air on Tuesday, May 14th at 5 pm.

about the full portfolio the system provides. If you would like to know where CCH will be this month, please check our [calendar of events](#).

Visit our website at [cookcountyhhs.org](#).

If you would like to invite a representative from CCH to attend a community event, please send an email to events@cookcountyhhs.org.

To provide feedback on CCH Community News, update your contact information, or unsubscribe, please email Marcelino Garcia, Director of Community Affairs, at mgarcia6@cookcountyhhs.org.